Management (CRM) course for the flight crew, making mandatory installation of Airborne Collision Avoidance System (ACAS) and ground Proximity Warning System in the aircraft.

Augmentation of Fleet by Air India

2492. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: SHRI AKHILESH DAS:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal under consideration to allow Air India to augment its fleet; if so, the details thereof indicating the number and specification of aircrafts to be acquired; and

(b) if no permission to augment the fleet is to be given, what measures Government propose to take to cut losses suffered by Air India?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) and (b) Expansion/ renewal of fleet by the two airlines is a continuing exercise and depends on various factors, the more important ones being the resources of the airlines, traffic requirements, suitability of the aircraft type and viability of operations of various sectors/routes.

Operation of flights in the North-Eastern Region

2493. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for not operating evening flight between Guwahati and Delhi;

(b) the reasons for operating flight to Dibrugarh, Silehar, Dimapur, Tezpur, and Jorhat only from Calcutta by passing Guwahati;

(c) the progress made towards making Guwahati a regional hub for North-East as per PM's declaration and the time by which this is scheduled to be operative; and

(d) the details of the plan and the present status of the regional air service network proposed to link important towns of North-East from Guwahati?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) and (b) Airlines generally select the timings and the sectors depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability of the flights subject to compliance with the route dispersal guidelines which provide for at least 10% of the operator's capacity deployed on Category-I (Trunk routes) to be made available for the North-East, Jammu & Kashmir, Lakshadweep Islands and Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

(c) and (d) Government is conscious of the problems of the North East region and is closely monitoring the development of airlinks and infrastructure.

The details of the existing routes schedule of operations in the North-Eastern region is given in the Statement.

Statement

Operations to North-East Region by Scheduled Airlines

(As on 14th Dec., 1998)

Airlines	Sector	Frequency (flights/ week)
ASSAM		
Dibrugarh		
Sahara India Airlines	Delhi-Guwahati-Dibrugarh-Guwahati-Delhi	4
Indian Airlines	Calcutta-Dibrugarh-Calcutta	4
Jorhat		
Jet Airways	Calcutta- Jorhat-Calcutta Calcutta-	2
Alliance Air	Jorhat-Dimapur-Calcutta	2
Guwahati		
Indian Airlines	Calcutta-Guwahati-Calcutta	10
	Calcutta-Imphal-Guwahati-Delhi	2
	Agartala-Guwahati-Agartala	3
	Delhi-Guwahati-Imphal-Calcutta	2
	Delhi-Bagdogra-Guwahati-Dclhi	3
	Guwahati-Dimapur-Guwahati	3*
	Guwahati-Lilabari-Guwahati	2*
	Calcutta-Aizwal-Guwahati	3
Sahara India Airlines	Delhi-Guwahati-Dibrugarh-Guwahati-Delhi	4
	Delhi-Guwahati-Delhi	3
Jet Airways	Delhi-Guwahati-Bagdogra-Delhi	Daily
	Calcutta-Guwahati-Calcutta	8
	Calcutta-Guwahati-Imphal-Guwahati-Calcutta	2
Lilabari		
Indian Airlines	Guwahati-Lilabari-Guwahati	2*
Silchar		
Alliance Air	Calcutta-Silchar-Imphal & return	3
	Calcutta-Silchar-Calcutta	3
Tezpur		
Alliance Air	Calcutta-Tezpur-Dimapur-Calcutta	2
ARUNACHAL PRADESH		
Nil		
MANIPUR		
Imphal		
Indian Airlines	Calcutta-Imphal-Guwahati-Delhi	2
	Delhi-Guwahati-Imphal-Calcutta	2

Airlines	Sector	Frequency (flights/ week)
Alliance Air	Calcutta-Silchar-Imphal & return Calcutta-Aizwal-	3
Jet Airways	Imphal-Calcutta	2
MIZORAM	Calcutta-Guwahati-Imphal-Guwahati-Calcutta	2
Aizwal		
Indian Airlines	Calcutta- Aizwal-Guwahati Calcutta-	3
Alliance Air	Aizwal-Calcutta	3
MEGHALAYA	Calcutta-Aizwal-Imphal-Calcutta	2
Nil *NAGALAND*		
Dimapur,		
Alliance Air	CalcuMa-Jorhat-Dimapur-Calcutta	2
	Calcutta-Tezpur-Dimapur-Calcutta	2
Indian Airlines	Guwahati-Dimapur-Guwahati	3*
TRIPURA		
Agartala		
Indian Airlines	Calcutta-Agartala-Calcutta	11
	Agartala-Guwahati-Agartala	3

*Dornier Operations to Dimapur & Lilabari are temporarily Suspended

Development of Unused Airstrips

2494. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of airstrips in the country, State-wise;

(b) how many of them are usable;

(c) the plan of Government to make unusable strips also usable; and

(d) whether Government have any plan to invite private investment for development of such airstrips?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) There are 448 airports' airstrips in the country. Of these, 46 airports are in Madhya Pradesh; 45 in Bihar; 38 in West Bengal; 37 in Rajasthan; 34 in Uttar Pradesh; 28 in Assam; 26 each in Gujarat, Maharashtra and Orissa; 20 in Andhra Pradesh; 19 in Jammu & Kashmir; 18 in Punjab; 17 each in Karnataka and Tamil Nadu; 9 each in Arunachal Pradesh and Haryana; 5 in Kerala; 4 in Tripura; 3 each in Manipur, Meghalaya and Himachal Pradesh; 2 each in Mizoram, Nagaland, Andaman & Nicorbar, Delhi and Lakshadweep; 1 each in Chandigarh, Daman, Diu, Goa and Pondicherry.

(b) 120 airports/civil enclaves in the country, are owned .and managed by Airports Authority of India (AA1) out of which 76 airports are in usable condition.